

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

Board of Regents for Higher Education  
Monday, March 28, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.  
61 Woodland Street, Hartford CT

**Minutes**

**REGENTS PRESENT**

Matt Fleury, Committee Chair  
Richard Balducci  
William McGurk (Telephonic)  
Catherine Smith (Telephone)  
Barbara Richards

**CSCU REPRESENTATIVES**

Mary Papazian, President CCSU; Mark Rozewski, Executive Vice President, SCSU; Charlene Casamento, Chief Financial Officer, CCSU; James Howarth, Vice President for Finance & Administration, ECSU; Sean Loughran, Vice President for Finance & Administration, WCSU; Cliff Williams, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer, COSC

**CSCU STAFF**

Mark Ojakian, President; Erika Steiner, Chief Financial Officer; Alice Pritchard, Chief of Staff; Keith Epstein, Vice President for Facilities & Infrastructure Planning; Karen Stone, Director of Internal Audit; Melentina Pusztay, Director for Budgets and Planning; Sandra Bispham-Haywood, Director of Contracts, Purchasing & Procurement; Pamela Mikaelian, Associate Director of Budgets & Planning; Erin Fitzgerald, Associate for Board Affairs; Christopher Forster, Controller; Sean Bradbury, Legislative Program Manager; Rose Butler, Administrative Assistant for Human Resources; Louisa Despina, Administrative Assistant for Finance

*With a quorum present, Chairman Fleury called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.*

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 18, 2016 MEETING**

*The minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved, as amended (Item D, Paragraph 2, \$550 million to \$5.5 million).*

**2. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**a. CSCU 2020 Update**

VP Epstein provided an update on CSCU 2020 and other capital projects to date. Most of projects are on schedule and within budget, while some projects are ahead of schedule. Chairman Fleury asked for report on any external delays. VP Epstein will provide that report at the next Finance & Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

### 3. ACTION ITEMS

#### a. Approval of FY 2017 Tuition and Fees

President Ojakian thanked Erika Steiner, Chief Financial Officer and her team for their hard work on analyzing Tuition and Fees. President Ojakian recognized that any increase in tuition and fees was unwelcomed, but CSCU staff believes this is the minimum increase they could recommend, in order to defray some of the fiscal hurdles. To close the gap for the FY 2016-2017, the increase represents \$110 a year for Connecticut Community Colleges and \$410 for Connecticut State Universities and for Charter Oak State College. President Ojakian stated that the decision of raising tuition and fees is a responsible reaction to the State's difficult situation. Once the final budget is established, the Board can start mitigating next year's budget and can initiate conversations about balancing and costs. CFO Steiner pointed out that various factors were considered in the decision making: Flat funding, low enrollment, no change to fringe benefits provided by the State (even as costs traditionally rise annually). This recommendation for FY 2017 tuition and fees does not close the budget gap, even in the best case scenario.

President Ojakian stated that in making those recommendations, the impact on students who depend on Pell grants to attend schools was also considered. 35.2 % of students are Pell recipients and 23.2% receive the maximum award. In FY 2017, the maximum Pell grant has been increased to \$5,815. At proposed tuition and fees of \$4,173, there is still a good margin for books, transportation and child care afforded to those students in need.

Regent Balducci commented that it's time to look for long term resolutions: Enrollment, personnel costs, as well as facilities.

*A motion by Chairman Fleury, seconded by Regent Balducci, carried unanimously to approve FY 2017 Tuition and Fees.*

Chairman Fleury stated that FY 2017 Tuition and Fees will go to the full Board tomorrow for final approval.

#### b. CSCU 2020 Reallocation of Funds for Southern Connecticut State University

VP Epstein explained that based upon SCSU's recent 2015 Master Plan study, CSCU 2020 Program funding for Southern's proposed Fine Arts Instructional Center Could be more effectively utilized to mitigate significant space deficiencies for the Health and Human Services Program and School of Business. \$70,929,000 of CSCU 2020 funds for design and construction of a new Fine Arts Instructional Center will be reallocated to three new projects: HHS Program Phase II, School of Business and Deferred Maintenance (includes roof replacement to Davis Hall's 47-year old original roof).

VP Epstein further explained that State statute (CGS Sec. 10a-91d(c)) requires a formal approving vote of the Board of Regents for any "Project" cost revision within CSCU 2020. The statute further states that project cost revision(s) equal to or greater than 5% of the total, if the project is greater than \$1 million, also require "a request by the BOR for, and enactment of, a subsequent public or special act approving" the revision. This modification exceeds 5% of the current project budget. Pending BOR approval, a legislative modification will be sought for the revision.

President Papazian commented that every year it's a challenge to anticipate enrollment, but those programs are the ones where the University has the most growth and need.

*The Resolution concerning CSCU 2020 Reallocation of Funds for Southern Connecticut*

*State University was unanimously approved on a motion by Chairman Fleury, seconded by Regent Balducci.*

**c. CSCU 2020 Reallocation of Funds for Western Connecticut State University**

VP Epstein explained that Western Connecticut State University's Midtown campus Berkshire Hall is approximately an 84,796 square foot facility. This facility houses classrooms and faculty offices. Funding for the renovation of this facility was not established. VP Epstein added that the Nursing and Education Departments currently located in various buildings, will be consolidated into one building. This space reallocation not only addresses space needs of both the Nursing and Education Departments, but also provides additional space for School of Business within the Westside Classroom building. VP Epstein stated that the funding for this project includes: Reallocation of CSCU FY 2017 \$4,797,000 from design of Berkshire Hall to the new White Hall Improvement Project, pending legislative modification; reallocation of \$1,618,952 from FY 2013 & FY 2015 of Western's CSCU 2020 Code Compliance/ Infrastructure Improvement Program, pending a legislative modification.

*The Resolution concerning CSCU 2020 Reallocation of Funds for Western Connecticut State University was unanimously approved on a motion my Chairman Fleury, seconded by Regent Balducci.*

*With no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.*